

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-26. (cancelled)

27. (new) An article formed at least partially from at least one metal sheet and incorporating at least one lockseam that interconnects adjacent edge margins of the at least one sheet, the lockseam including a region where the edge margins overlap and wherein at least one of the edge margins has a coating applied to it that is disposed in the overlap and forms a gasket to provide a watertight joint at the lockseam.

28. (new) An article according to claim 27, wherein the coating is compressed in the overlap.

29. (new) An article according to claim 28, wherein the coating is compressed by an amount in the range of 10 – 50% of its original thickness.

30. (new) An article according to claim 27, wherein the coating is in the form a polymeric film.

31. (new) An article according to claim 30, wherein the polymeric film is applied across at least one of the major surfaces of the at least one sheet so as to provide a moisture barrier and/or to enhance the chemical resistance of the sheet.

32. (new) An article according to claim 31, wherein the polymeric film is selected from the group consisting of: low density or high density polyethylene, PVC, and polypropylene.

33. (new) An article according to claim 32, wherein the thickness of the film is in the range of 100 to 400 microns.

34. (new) An article according to claim 27, wherein the coating is applied only along the at least one edge margin.

35. (new) An article according to claim 34, wherein the coating is selected from the group

consisting of low density or high density polyethylene, PVC, polypropylene, natural or synthetic rubber.

36. (new) An article according to claim 27, wherein the thickness of the metal sheet is between 0.35 – 3.00mm.
37. (new) An article according to claim 36, wherein the metal sheet is steel that incorporates a corrosion resistant metal coating.
38. (new) An article according to claim 27, wherein one edge margin is disposed around an end portion of the other edge margin so that the one edge margin has a first portion that abuts one side of the end portion, and a second portion that abuts the other side of that end portion.
39. (new) An article according to claim 38, wherein the first and second portions of the one end margin and the end portion of the other edge margin are generally flat.
40. (new) An article according to claim 38, wherein the first and second portions of the one edge margin and the end portion of the other edge margins are cambered.
41. (new) An article according to claim 27, wherein the article is a metal pipe.
42. (new) An article according to claim 41, wherein the article is a metal spiral wound pipe.
43. (new) An article according to claim 27, wherein the article is a metal tank.
44. (new) An article formed at least partially from at least one metal sheet and incorporating at least one lockseam that interconnects adjacent edge margins of the at least one sheet, the lockseam including a region where the edge margins overlap and wherein both edge margins have a coating applied thereto, wherein the coating of one edge margin is in engagement with the coating of the other edge margin to form a gasket between the edge margins.
45. (new) An article according to claim 44, wherein the coatings are compressed in the overlap.

46. (new) An article according to claim 45, wherein the coatings are compressed by an amount in the range of 10 – 50% to their original thickness.
47. (new) An article according to claim 44, wherein the coatings are in the form polymeric films.
48. (new) An article according to claim 47, wherein a polymeric film forms the coating on the edge margins and is applied across one of the major surfaces of the at least one sheet so as to provide a moisture barrier and/or to enhance the chemical resistance of the sheet.
49. (new) An article according to claim 48, wherein the polymeric film is selected from the group consisting of: low density or high density polyethylene, PVC, and polypropylene.
50. (new) An article according to claim 49, wherein the thickness of the film in the range of 100 to 400 microns.
51. (new) An article according to claim 44, wherein the coatings are applied only along the edge margins.
52. (new) An article according to claim 51, wherein the coatings are selected from the group consisting of low density or high density polyethylene, PVC, polypropylene, natural or synthetic rubber.
53. (new) An article according to claim 44, wherein the thickness of the metal sheet is between 0.35 – 3.00mm.
54. (new) An article according to claim 53, wherein the metal sheet is steel that incorporates a corrosion resistant metal coating.
55. (new) An article according to claim 44, wherein one edge margin is disposed around amend portion of the other edge margin so that the one edge margin has a first portion that abuts one side of the end portion, and a second portion that abuts the other side of that end portion.
56. (new) An article according to claim 55, wherein the first and second portions of the one

end margin and the end portion of the other edge margin are generally flat.

57. (new) An article according to claim 55, wherein the first and second portions of the one edge margin and the end portion of the other edge margins are cambered.

58. (new) An article according to claim 44, wherein the article is a metal pipe.

59. (new) An article according to claim 58, wherein the article is a metal spiral wound pipe.

60. (new) An article according to claim 44, wherein the article is a metal tank.

61. (new) A method of forming a watertight joint between two edge margins formed of metal sheet, the method comprising the steps of:

providing at least one of the two edge margins with a coating applied to it; and
interconnecting the edge margins to form a lockseam, the edge regions being arranged to overlap in the lockseam with the coating being located in the overlap between the metal sheets.

62. (new) A method according to claim 61, further comprising the step of:
applying pressure to the edge margins so as to compress the coating in the lockseam.

63. (new) A method according to claim 62, wherein a clinching force is applied to the edge margins so as to compress the coating in the lockseam.

64. (new) A method according to claim 62, wherein pressure is applied to the edge margins so as to compress the coating in the lockseam by an amount in the range of 10 – 50% of its original thickness.

65. (new) A method according to claim 61, further comprising the steps of:
providing both of the two edge margins with a coating; and
connecting the edge margins to form the lockseam with the coating of one edge margin being in engagement with the coating of the other edge margin in the overlap.

66. (new) A method according to claim 65, further comprising the step of:
applying pressure to the edge margins so as to compress the coatings in the lockseam.

67. (new) A method according to claim 61, further comprising the step of forming the lockseam by folding over one edge margin around the other edge margin so that the one edge margin abuts both sides of the other edge margin.
68. (new) A method according to claim 61, further comprising the step of applying a film to the at least one metal sheet so as to form the coating on the at least one of the two edge margins.
69. (new) A method according to claim 68, wherein the film is applied to substantially all of at least one of the major surfaces of the metal sheet so as to provide a moisture barrier and/or to enhance the chemical resistance of the sheet.
70. (new) A watertight joint formed between first and second metal sheet margins, the edge margins interlocking in overlapping relation to form a lockseam, wherein at least one of the edge margins incorporates a coating that forms a gasket between the edge margins.
71. (new) A watertight joint formed between first and second metal sheet edge margins, the edge margins interlocking in overlapping relation to form a lockseam, wherein each edge margin incorporates a coating and wherein the coating of one edge margin is in engagement with the coating of the other edge margin to form a gasket between the edge margins.